GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:874
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2001
DECREASE IN DEMAND OF COAL
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand of coal has been continuously decreasing during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor ;

(c) the major sectors to which the coal is being supplied at present;

(d) the quantum of coal demanded and supplied to each of these sectors, grade-wise, during the last three years; and

(e) the percentage of ash contents in the coal being supplied to the power plants?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL(SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a)to(d): Demand and offtake of coal has been consistently increasing, except in the year 1998-99. In 1998-99, there was general economic slowdown and resultant less demand by major consumers. The major sectors which are supplied coal are steel, power, cement etc. Total offtake of coal by major sectors and others for last three years is as under:-

(Million Tonnes)

S.No	Consumer	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Power Houses	212.92	204.68	222.63
		(3.62)	(3.02)	(2.11)
2.	Steel Plants and Cokeries	23.61	24.98	21.40
	(raw coking coal)			
3.	Cement Plants	10.13	8.61	9.50
4.	Others	50.30	50.31	50.86
		(2.10)		
	Total Offtake	296.96	288.58	304.39
		(5.72)	(3.02)	(2.11)

Note: The figures in bracket indicate supply of washery middlings

(e): The ash and moisture content of coal supplied to majority of power plants varies from 34.1% to 47.1%.